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XA-9544 PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Sakae MATSUMOTO et al.

Appln. No.: 09/936,564

Group Art Unit: 3682

Filed: September 14, 2001

Examiner: B. Van Pelt

For: COUPLING STRUCTURE OF EXTENSIBLE SHAFTS

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The official filing receipt and the Notice of Acceptance (copies attached) show the filing date of the underlying international application as March 26, 2001.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be corrected, as shown in red on the accompanying copies, to indicate the international filing date as <u>January 26, 2001</u>. See the attached cover sheet from the published international application

Respectfully submitted,

MWS: 1mb

Miles & Stockbridge P.C. 1751 Pinnacle Drive, Suite 500 McLean, Virginia 22102 (703) 903-9000 August 8, 2003 By:

Mitchell W. Shapir

Reg. No. 31,568



INITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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FIL FEE REC'D ATTY.DOCKET.NO GRP ART UNIT **DRAWINGS** IND CLAIMS FILING DATE APPLICATION NUMBER XA-9544 09/936.564 09/14/2001 3682 860

000181 MILES & STOCKBRIDGE PC 1751 PINNACLE DRIVE SUITE 500 MCLEAN, VA 22102-3833



CONFIRMATION NO. 7144

FILING RECEIPT

Date Mailed: 10/25/2001

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Sakae Matsumoto, Gunma-ken, JAPAN; Tadashi Hibino, Gunma-ken, JAPAN; Takeshi Negishi, Gunma-ken, JAPAN; Satoshi Onozato, Gunma-ken, JAPAN;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

THIS APPLICATION IS A 371 OF PCT/JP01/00532-03/26/2001 01 | 30 | 3001

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2000-019049 01/27/2000

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Security Review

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Connection structure of extendable shaft

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GRANTED

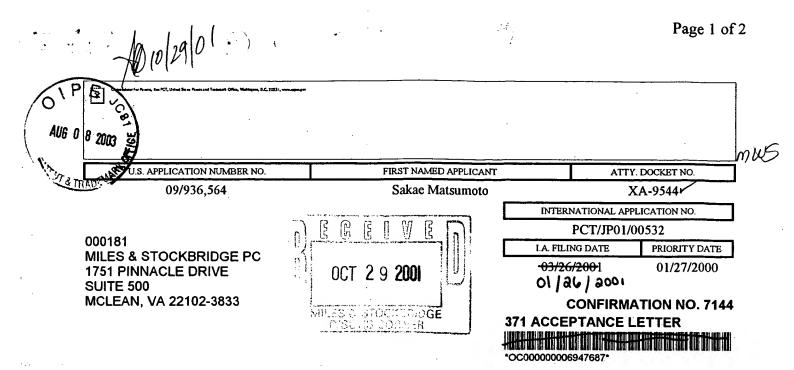
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Date Mailed: 10/25/2001

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated Office (37 CFR 1.494), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

09/14/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

09/14/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF ALL 35 U.S.C. REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- . U.S. Basic National Fee
- · Copy of references cited in ISR
- Copy of the International Application
- Copy of the International Search Report
- Information Disclosure Statements
- Oath or Declaration

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

KAYA L LEWIS BALTIMORE Telephone: (703) 305-3695

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

(19) 世界知的所有権機関 国際事務局



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(10) 国際公開番号 WO 01/55610 A1

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目8番1号 日本精工株式会社内 Gunma (JP). 日比野 正 (HTBINO, Tadashi) [JP/JP]. 根岸武司 (NEGISHI,

Takeshi) [JP/JP]; 〒371-0845 群馬県前橋市鳥羽町78

(51) 国際特許分類7:

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日本語

(74) 代理人: 井上義雄(INOUE, Yoshio); 〒103-0027 東京 都中央区日本橋3丁目1番4号 画廊ビル3階 Tokyo (JP).

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国際調査報告書

(71) 出願人 (米国を除く全ての指定国について): 日本精 工株式会社 (NSK LTD.) [JP/JP]; 〒141-8560 東京都品 川区大崎1丁目6番3号 Tokyo (JP).

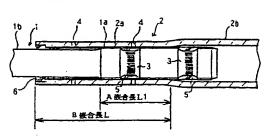
2文字コード及び他の略語については、 定期発行される 各PCTガゼットの巻頭に掲載されている「コードと略語 のガイダンスノート」を参照。

(72) 発明者; および

(75) 発明者/出願人 (米国についてのみ): 松本 栄 (MAT-SUMOTO, Sakae) [JP/JP]. 小野里智 (ONOZATO,

(54) Title: CONNECTION STRUCTURE OF EXTENDABLE SHAFT

(54) 発明の名称: 伸縮自在シャフトの結合構造



A...FITTED LENGTH L1 B...FITTED LENGTH L

(57) Abstract: A connection structure of extendable shaft, wherein resin is filled in recessed grooves (3) formed in a male splineif fitted part (1a) of an inner shaft (1) through filling holes (4) formed in a female spline-fitted part (2a) of an outer shaft (2) so as to form resin sliding parts (5) at these fitted parts (1a) and (2a) of these both shafts (1) and (2), and a resin ring (6) is installed on the inner peripheral surface of the outer shaft (2) at the tip of the female spline-fitted part (2a), whereby the tip part of the outer shaft (2) can be moved smoothly forward of a vehicle because the resin ring (6) slides on the outer peripheral surface of the small diameter part (1b) of the inner shaft (1) even if the tip part of the outer shaft (2) comes off from of the male spline-fitted part (1a) of the inner shaft (1) at the time of collapse by a secondary collision.

[続葉有]

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP01/00532

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int.Cl ⁷ F16D3/06								
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC								
B. FIELDS SEARCHED								
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Int.Cl ⁷ F16D3/06								
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1926-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2001 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2001 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2001								
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)								
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT								
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where app	Relevant to claim No.						
Ÿ	GB, 002316150, A (Kabushiki Kais 18 February, 1998 (18.02.98), Fig. 8, & JP, 10-45006, A (Yamada Seisa	1,2						
Y	JP, 5-185511, A (Gunze Limited) 27 July, 1993 (27.07.1993), Fig. 2; page 1, left column, li (Family: none)	1,2						
Y	JP, 10-246369, A (Bridgestone C 14 September, 1998 (14.09.98), Fig. 1; page 2, right column, 1 (Family: none)	2						
·								
			<u> </u>					
	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.						
 Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art document member of the same patent family 								
04	April, 2001 (04.04.01)	Date of mailing of the international search report 17 April, 2001 (17.04.01)						
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office		Authorized officer						
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Bib Data Sheet

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APPLICANTS Sakae Matsumoto, Gunma-ken, JAPAN; Tadashi Hibino, Gunma-ken, JAPAN; Takeshi Negishi, Gunma-ken, JAPAN; Satoshi Onozato, Gunma-ken, JAPAN; *** CONTINUING DATA **********************************									
Foreign Priority claimed 35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions met Verified and Acknowledged Exa	state or COUNTRY JAPAN	SHEETS TOT DRAWING CLAI 2 2			INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1				
ADDRESS 181									
TITLE Connection structure of extendable shaft									
RECEIVED No.	S: Authority has been given in Paper to charge/credit DEPOSIT ACCOUNT for following:		□ 1.1 lime) □ 1.1 lime) □ 1.1 □ 0tl	□ All Fees □ 1.16 Fees (Filing) □ 1.17 Fees (Processing Ext. of time) □ 1.18 Fees (Issue) □ Other □ Credit					